



Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Children Board (Staying Safe)

Tuesday 16 October 2007 at 9.30a.m.

at Learning and Conference Centre, Priorslee

Present:

Mr C Watt	NSPCC, Chair of T&W SCB
Ms C Barber	T&WC: Early Years
Mr M Bennett	T&WC: Mental Health (NHS Trust)
Mrs P Bickley	TandW PCT
Miss E Boddison	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service (Minutes)
Ms L Burrows	Shropshire and T&W: Youth Offending Service
Mrs A Cole	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service
Mr T Currie	West Mercia Probation Service
Mrs B Evans	T&WC: Safeguarding & Corporate Parenting
Ms K Fisher	T&WC: Legal Services
Mr D Goss	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service
DCI J Groves	West Mercia Constabulary
Mr G Harkness	T&WC Learning and School Improvement
Ms C Hobbs	Primary Schools
Mr P Jackson	T&WC: Community Services
DSupt M Lakeman	West Mercia Constabulary
Ms J McGillivray	T&WC: Adult Protection
Ms A Orr	SSAFA
Ms N Peck	T&WC: Connexions 4 Youth
Mr D Robson	T&WC: Adult and Consumer Care
Ms A Rosser	Further Education Colleges
Mrs S Tough	T&WC Change for Children Manager
Mr M Turner	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service
Ms A Wood	SaTH

1. Apologies

Mr G Branch	West Mercia Probation Service
Ms J Clark	T&WC: School and Community Services
Dr Ganesh	TandWPCT
Ms L Heath	Secondary Schools
Ms L Hosking	Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service
Ms J Jones	Methodist Church
Ms S Jones	TandW PCT Sexual Health Services
Ms K Perry	Joint Commissioning Unit
Ms A Scott-Ryan	TandW PCT
Ms J Sumner	TandW PCT
Ms K Thorneywork	Learning and Skills Council
Ms S Tyas	T&WC: Learning & School Improvement
Major J Welsh	Army Welfare Service

Apologies not received

Ms J Caluori	CAFCASS
Mrs C Hughes	T&W SCB Training
Mr N Janjua	CVS: Race & Diversity Partnership (RED)
Ms C Jones	T&WC: Safeguarding & Corporate Parenting
Ms K Jones	T&WC: Housing
Mr P Lowe	Crown Prosecution Service
Mr A Mc Dougall	Telford and Wrekin Family Proceedings panels
Mr B McKinnon	West Midlands Ambulance Service
Ms P Paradise	Victim Support

Shropshire and Staffordshire Strategic Health Authority

2. Minutes from last meeting and Matters Arising

Agreed as being accurate.

Page 3: Medication in Schools update

The Managing Asthma in Schools Policy Guidance is now completed. However, Dr Woodward is still looking into schools having a box with an inhaler in as there are some issues around prescribing an inhaler if it is not for a named person.

Page 3: CATE

Nicky reported that Connexions 4 Youth have been able to allocate some time of two Youth Workers and one Personal Advisor to CATE; between them they will be able to work two days a week. All three members of staff are very experienced

in this area of work are able to start immediately, however Nicky would like the CATE Subgroup to discuss how this time will be spent prior to them starting.

Page 4: Update on Policies & Procedures

The Policies and Procedures have now been finalised. Anne reported that the Safeguarding Children Board now has a website where there is a link to the Policies and Procedures; flyers have been produced advising of this (please see attached). It was acknowledged that the website will need to be regularly updated to be of maximum benefit but that to date capacity to achieve this had not been identified.

Page 6: Update on Section 11 audit and scrutiny

Please refer to the paper 'Scrutiny - The Way Forward' which was circulated with today's agenda.

Nicky indicated that she would like to ask for volunteers to sit on a scrutiny subgroup and for today's meeting to decide which of the following standards should be the first to be investigated further by that subgroup:

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|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Standard 2.1 | The organisation ensures that children are listened to and taken seriously. |
| Standard 2.3 | The organisation ensures and facilitates good communication with young people from all ethnic groups and ability ranges. |
| Standard 2.8 | Staff are aware of appropriate policies/practice in relation to children living away from home (fostering, custody, residential or boarding care, hospitals etc). |

Sara Tough volunteered to be part of the group, David Goss volunteered either himself or a Conference and Reviewing Officer, Pam wished to volunteer Jane Sumner and Barbara suggested that an Elected Member sit on the group. Colin advised that Anne and he are meeting with Stephen Burrell, the Cabinet Assistant for Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting, on 17 October so will discuss it with him then, although it was also suggested that an Elected Member who covers the PCT could be considered. John Groves also agreed to look at the possibility of somebody from the local Public Protection Unit sitting on the group.

After discussion it was decided that Standard 2.1 and 2.3 are linked and should be the standards that are investigated first.

Nicky will contact the volunteers in a couple of weeks time to arrange a meeting

Page 7: Integrated Child Care Yellow Staff Folder

Mark advised that, as planned, the launch date was 1 September 2007.

Page 7: Communications Strategy

The Communications Group are meeting in November to progress this.

Page 8: Child Protection Level 1 Training

Claire Hughes is still looking for volunteers to join the Training Pool.

Page 8: Child Death Reviews

Pam Bickley explained that Jane Sumner has been attending the 'Train the Trainers' course so that she can carry out training on Child Death Reviews. Jane will be taking a progress report to the November Executive Group meeting explaining the Child Death Review process. Pam added that now the Designated Doctor is in post they will be looking at how the process can be carried forward by the Health Authority; feedback will be provided to the November Executive Group meeting. The timescale for having a Child Death Review Panel in place is April 2008. Pam went on to say that discussions are taking place regarding having one panel across Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin; originally it was proposed that the one panel should also cover Herefordshire and Worcestershire but Pam feels that this would be too much for one panel.

Pam wished to add that Audrey Scott-Ryan, the new Designated Nurse for Child Protection, has now started, although she had to send apologies to today's meeting as she had a prior commitment.

3. Board Matters

Links with CYPSPB

Colin indicated that he feels the links between the Board and the CYPSPB are improving. It was decided that one way of improving the links would be for Colin to sit on the CYPSPB and he attended his first meeting recently; Colin added that Barbara also sits the CYPSPB as the chair of the Staying safe sub group (which also acts as the executive committee of the SCB)

Lead Member arrangements

Colin and Anne are meeting with Stephen Burrell on 17 October 2007 to discuss how to develop links with Elected Member. Stephen is the Cabinet Assistant covering Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting and Ian Fletcher is the Lead Member for Children and Young People.

Review of Terms of Reference

Colin reported that the CYPSPB are currently reviewing their Terms of Reference and he feels that it would be useful for the Board to see them before reviewing their own.

Funding the SCB

Please refer to the paper 'Briefing Paper in respect of the resourcing requirements of the Board' which was emailed with today's agenda.

Anne reported that since sending the letter to everyone regarding the funding she has had agreement from all in principal. The NHS hospital Trust has written back agreeing, YOS have put an offer forward and existing funding partners have agreed to continue with at least the current level of funding.

The paper was not presented to the CYPSPB in September as the responses were still being collated and it was Colin's first meeting.

Pam explained that she has proposed to the Chief Executive of PCT that they continue with the existing funding and look at additional funding as outlined in the proposal. Pam is also looking at providing the Board with some admin support.

Anne also reported that 33 schools have now signed up to the £250 club.

Colin advised that the DCSF have not issued a funding formula yet but are keeping a close eye on the challenges Safeguarding Children Boards are facing.

4. Update on Annual Performance Assessment and JAR

Barbara reported that the Annual Performance Assessment has taken place and she is delighted to say although the official letter has yet to be received, the indications are that we will be graded a 3. Barbara added that she attended a meeting with the inspectors who were very impressed with the Policies and Procedures and the Integrated Child Care Yellow Staff Folders. The inspectors expressed some concern that there was little evidence of the Board 'driving the agenda' and their other comments related to domestic abuse and the need to agree 'pathways' for referral.

For the Annual Performance Assessment the inspectors got their information from the C&YP Plan and SCB minutes. However, thought needs to be given to where they get it from in the future and one possibility is the Exec minutes. Martin Lakeman indicated that he feels it needs to be looked at collectively and the inspectors need to see an overall picture, not just look at C&YP; Anne advised that the process will be looked at.

Following the APA Barbara feels that the Board needs to think about how it demonstrates the work that is being done and ensure its profile is developed (by updating the SCB website, having press releases etc)

It was a general feeling of those present at today's meeting that it would be useful if Board Members received the Exec minutes and Anne suggested that once the SCB website has a password protected section they could be posted on there and an email sent advising people.

5. Childcare Sufficiency Audit

Cathy Barber gave the attached presentation and advised that she will bring the findings of the Audit back in draft form to the January Board meeting. The results will be available to the public.

6. Progress report on work programme

The Work Programme with a progress report for the various 'Leads' was circulated with today's agenda.

Anne asked for those present to discuss and record what they feel are the priorities for next year's Work Programme, together with any suggestions as to how to tackle them; please see the attached suggestions.

It was agreed that the Bullying definition should be on the SCB website.

It was asked if Catherine Woodward's report on alcohol which was presented to the CYPSPB could be circulated, therefore it is attached to these minutes.

Martin Lakeman stated that Internet Safety should be a priority for the Board and that agencies should be challenged on what they are doing about educating parents and delivering the message within their own organisation. Martin added that he will be attending a CEOP meeting in the near future and will then produce a paper for the Board.

7. Half year performance

David Goss gave the attached presentation.

Discussion took place around the high number of registrations and it was agreed that the Board needs to look at why there has been a big increase. Anne Cole indicated that the number of names on the Child Protection is the highest it's been since Telford & Wrekin came into existence. Sara Tough commented that she feels that when large families are subject to a Child Protection Conference, the conference needs to look at which individual names should be added to the

Register and not place all of the children's names on there. Colin stated that it is difficult to know whether the increase in Registrations is due to an increased awareness of abuse or an increase in abuse itself. Barbara reiterated that this is a major concern that needs to be looked at by the Board and added that by the next meeting she should have more information on bench marks of other authorities.

When looking at the last slide of the presentation, David wished to acknowledge the work of the Conference and Reviewing Officers as they have been coping with the increase and maintaining timescales whilst one colleague was on long term sick leave.

David explained that he and Mark Turner have become LADOs (Local Authority Designated Officer: see Working Together for more details) and over the last six months they have chaired 35 Strategy Meetings where there have been allegations against people working with children.

Anne commented that, whilst these performance figures relate to multi agency work, there are very much focused on 'traditional child protection' and that the Board may wish to broaden the performance monitoring presented to them. Anne suggested that MAPPA and Domestic Abuse information could usefully be added and asked that any other performance indicators that people may have which they feel relevant to safeguarding should be forwarded to her.

8. Information items

Advice for schools on safe use of internet and restraint

This was circulated with today's agenda. Mark Turner explained that the document was written as there have been around seven Strategy Meetings recently regarding ICT where it was felt common sense could have been applied. The document will be posted on the OLE, Graham Harkness will arrange for copies to be given to all Head Teachers at the Heads Briefing and Mark will email to all Designated Persons for Child Protection.

Sport leaflet

Copies were available at today's meeting and can be obtained from Mark Turner and Emma Boddison. There will be posters in all leisure facilities.

9. Accident Prevention Strategy

Sarah Evans, Health Promotion Specialist Children and Young People / Accident Prevention, gave the attached presentation.

Anne acknowledged that this is an excellent example of a working group actioning what they discuss.

10. Survey of parents whose children have been through the child protection process

A report was circulated with today's agenda and Anne handed out a draft Action Plan at the meeting (please see attached).

Martin Lakeman asked if children are given an explanation of what Child Protection Conferences are and advised that Shropshire have produced an excellent booklet. Anne responded that this should be looked at.

Anne wished to express thanks to Lyndsey Richardson for conducting the survey and added that as this is a 'snapshot in time' it would be useful to repeat the survey next year or possibly to ask parents to complete a feedback form at the end of Initial Child Protection Conferences to see how/whether things have progressed.

11. DCSF consultation on Staying Safe

A single page summary was sent with today's agenda and there is a presentation on the Every Child Matters Website. Anne indicated that the document is an interesting read and asked people to respond if they wish to, the deadline is 31 October 2007.

12. AOB

Workshop on managing allegations 15th November

Anne advised that the Executive Group have been invited to attend this along with their HR representative and today extended the invitation to the Board; if you would like to attend please contact Emma Boddison (emma.boddison@telford.gov.uk or 01952 385663)

Date and Venue of 2008 meetings

Due to the Learning and Conference Centre not being available for next year's meetings AFC Telford has been booked. Barbara suggested asking AFC Telford to present to the Board what they are doing to safeguard children.

It had been commented during the morning that the agendas are so full that the 'networking time' over coffee that people found useful has had to be cut down.

Anne asked if people would like lunch to be provided at the end of the Board Meetings so that they can network; please let Anne or Emma Boddison have your views on this.

Date of Next Meeting:

Local Safeguarding Board (Staying Safe), Tuesday 8 January 2007, 9.30am, AFC Telford United Learning Centre, Training Room 6.

Future dates for 2008:

08.04.08

08.07.08

07.10.08

All meetings at 9.30am at AFC Telford United Learning Centre, Training Room 6

Inclusions for the Agenda:

Any further inclusions for the agenda, or topics, presentations, suggestions or offers for future meetings please could they be sent to Colin Watt, Anne Cole or Emma Boddison.